

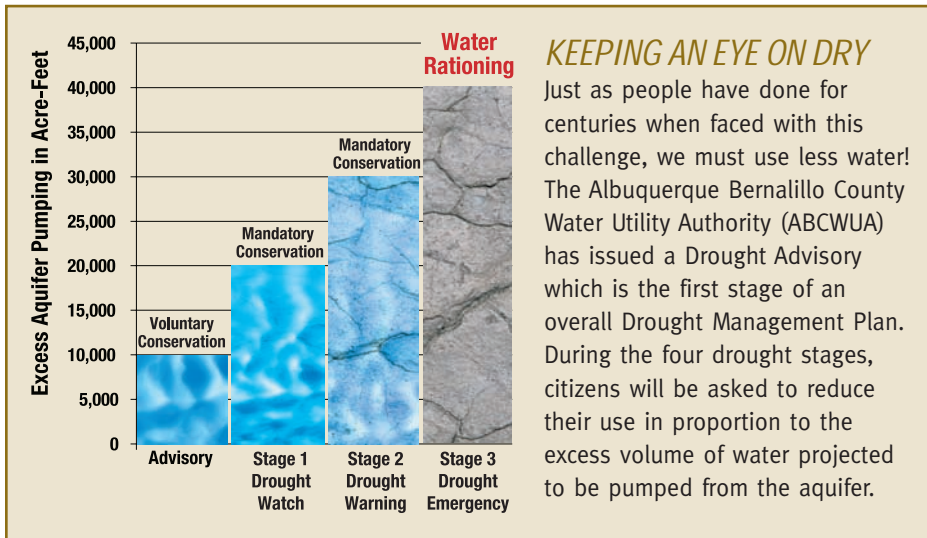


SERIOUS DROUGHTS visit the Southwest every seventy years or so.

The last major drought occurred in the 1950s and lasted several years.

When it subsided, the region entered a "wet period" that may now be drying up.

Looks like we're going to get another visit.



KEEPING AN EYE ON DRY

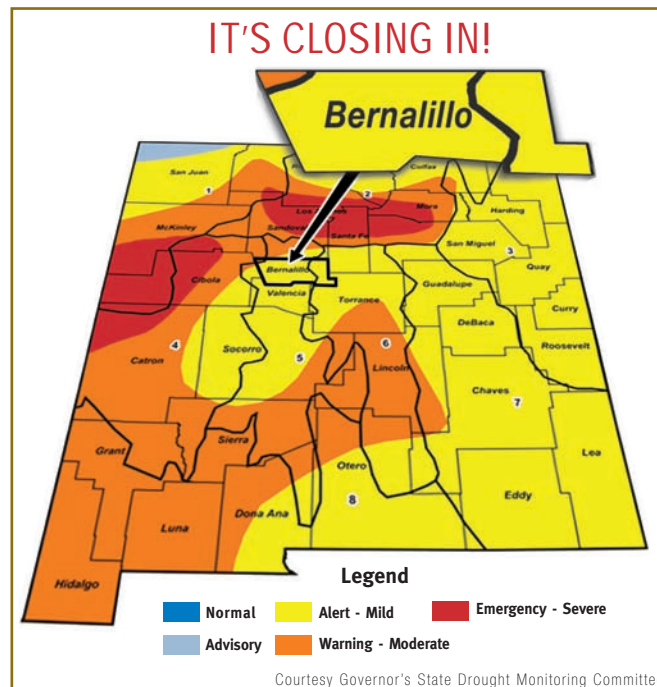
Just as people have done for centuries when faced with this challenge, we must use less water! The Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority (ABCWUA) has issued a Drought Advisory which is the first stage of an overall Drought Management Plan. During the four drought stages, citizens will be asked to reduce their use in proportion to the excess volume of water projected to be pumped from the aquifer.

THE AQUIFER – OUR SOLE SOURCE OF SUPPLY

We have already reduced the water level in our aquifer by 180 feet in some places; we must adjust our use to avoid land surface subsidence, which is estimated to occur at about the 250 foot level. Conservation is our most reliable and least expensive means of coping with drought.

The map below shows the impact of drought throughout the state as of this early spring. Bernalillo County is in the Alert stage with mild drought conditions, but more serious conditions prevail nearby. **Without**

major precipitation and effective conservation, we could approach the Drought Emergency stage.



ROUT THE DROUGHT

The following tips should get us through this dry period without further damage to the aquifer:

- **Restrict outdoor watering to once a week**
- **Reduce indoor use by 10%**
- **Curb water waste and avoid new double fines (from \$40 to \$1000 - see box below)**
- **Report any water waste you encounter by calling 768-3640**
- **Use water efficient appliances**
- **Wash only full loads in laundry and dishwashers**

WATER WASTE FINES

- 1st Violation: \$ 40
- 2nd Violation: \$ 100
- 3rd Violation: \$ 200
- 4th Violation: \$ 300
- 5th Violation: \$ 400
- 6th Violation: \$ 600
- 7th Violation: \$ 800
- 8th Violation: \$ 1000
- 9th Violation: **Either \$1,000 per violation plus application of a flow restriction device at the irrigation meter or \$2,000 per violation.**

IMPORTANT TOOLS

The ABCWUA offers many incentive programs to encourage water conservation:

- **Toilet rebates – up to \$125 per toilet**
- **Residential xeriscape – up to \$800**
- **Commercial xeriscape – up to \$5,000**
- **Low water use washing machine – \$100**
- **Hot water recirculating system – \$100**
- **Rainwater harvesting barrel – \$25**
- **Sprinkler timer – \$10**
- **Free water use audits and retrofits**

Check out local media daily for information on how to survive drought conditions. If we do our part to save water, we can get through this challenge together, avoid land surface subsidence and keep our aquifer healthy.

For more tips to help you **Rout the Drought**, go to our website at cabq.gov/waterconservation or call **768-3655**.

WHAT IT MEANS

Last year we pumped about 104,000 acre-feet of water from our aquifer. And, we're already exceeding last year's water use at this time. Unfortunately, during dry weather we tend to increase our pumping. **Past trends indicate we need to reduce our water use during this Drought Advisory by about 10,000 acre-feet, or 10% per person.** If the drought gets worse, we may need to activate **mandatory** measures later this spring or summer. While present conditions call for a **voluntary** response, the ABCWUA has implemented double water waste fines.

Stage	Level	Conservation Response	Projected Aquifer Pumping
Present	Advisory	Voluntary	10,000 acre-feet/year
Stage I	Watch	Mandatory	20,000 acre-feet/year
Stage II	Warning	Additional Mandatory	30,000 acre-feet/year
Stage III	Emergency	Rationing	40,000 acre-feet/year or 30,000 acre-feet for 2+ yrs.